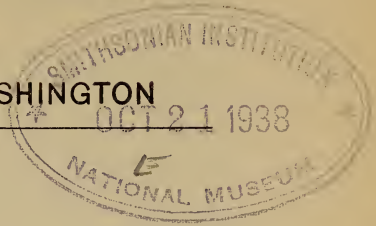


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTONCHAGUNIUS, A NEW GENUS OF ASIATIC
CYPRINOID FISHES.

BY HUGH M. SMITH.

A cyprinoid fish with peculiar physiognomy and with taxonomic characters which make it easily distinguishable was described by Hamilton (Fishes of the Ganges, 1822) under the name *Cyprinus chagunio*, and for a hundred years has been carried in the heterogeneous genus *Barbus*. It seems desirable to separate the fish from this composite group and to give it a position coordinate with *Lissochilus*, *Cyclocheilichthys*, *Hampala*, and the various other genera of the *Barbus* complex that have been recognized by recent writers on Oriental fishes.

CHAGUNIUS, new genus (Cyprinidae).

Body and head well compressed; head with no sensory folds, short, deep, its sides flat; snout slightly overhanging the mouth, its free pendant border entire and covering the base of the upper lip; well-developed pairs of rostral and maxillary barbels; a short groove extending upward and forward from base of each rostral barbel, thus dividing the snout into central and lateral lobes; eyes with a narrow annular lid, in midlength of head and extending to dorsal profile; suborbital bones forming a narrow ring less than one-third depth of cheek; branchial apertures extending to a point under posterior edge of eyes; branchial membranes narrowly joined to isthmus; gill-rakers on lower arm of first arch 9 fleshy plates of roughly triangular shape, those on inner side of arch smaller; a few (4 or 5) slender, flattened lingulate gill-rakers on upper arm of first arch; mouth large, horizontal, horseshoe-shaped; lips thick, fleshy, papillose, continuous around corners of mouth, closely investing jaws, which have no horny covering; lower lip sharply defined by a long, deep, straight, posterior groove which does not extend to median line of chin; pharyngeal teeth 5,3,2 — 2,3,5, those in outer row much the largest and of several shapes, the first tooth strongly compressed antero-posteriorly, its broad surface concave; snout and cheeks thickly beset with short, horny tubercles in male, smaller and fewer tubercles in female; scales small, over 40 in longitudinal series in type species; lateral line com-

plete, running along middle of caudal peduncle; a scaly sheath at base of dorsal and anal fins; dorsal fin arising nearer to tip of snout than to base of caudal and in advance of ventrals, its rays iii,8 or iv,8, the last simple ray osseous, strong, compressed, gently curved, its posterior edge coarsely serrated; anal fin with 5 branched rays, the last two rays greatly elongated in the adult male (representing the species *spilopholus* of McClelland), not elongated in the female (species *chagunio* of Hamilton and *beavani* of Günther); ventral and pectoral fins inserted low, pectoral rays in male with rows of tubercles on dorsal side.

Genotype.—*Cyprinus chagunio* Hamilton, inhabiting India, Burma, and Siam.

The generic and specific names of this fish are based on the Indian vernacular *chaguni* given to it in the province of Behar.